

Did you know?

The early years, especially the first three years of life, are very important for building the baby's brain. Everything she or he sees, touches, tastes, smells or hears helps to shape the brain for thinking, feeling, moving and learning.

Babies learn rapidly from the moment of birth. They grow and learn best when responsive and caring adults give them affection, attention and protection. Good nutrition and proper health care is also essential for healthy development and learning.

Encouraging children to play and explore helps them learn and develop socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. This helps children get ready for school.

Children learn how to behave (socially and emotionally) by imitating the behavior of those closest to them.

Entering kindergarten on time is important for your child's overall development and school success. Support from parents, caregivers, teachers and the community helps your child get the best possible start in life.

All children grow and develop in similar patterns, but each child develops at her or his own pace. Every child has her or his own interests, temperament, style of social interaction and approach to learning.



www.Great-Start.org

Growing Families Home Visiting Program



2525 3rd Avenue South
Escanaba, MI 49829

www.Great-Start.org



Welcome!

Children come into this world ready for love and learning. You are your child's first and most influential teacher. Our program uses the Parents as Teachers curriculum to inform, support, and encourage parents in this important role.

Parents as Teachers has a vision: that all children will grow and develop to reach their full potential. Our parent educator will partner with you to focus on your child's healthy growth and development.

A parent educator will personalize information to fit with your family's needs, concerns, and hopes. Together you will discuss goals for you as a parent and for your child.

You will build on your strengths and skills through:


Personal Visits - with a parent educator who is knowledgeable about child development and brain research, will help you understand what to expect as your child grows and offers practical suggestions on encouraging learning as well as managing challenging behavior.

Group Meetings - allow you to meet with other parents to gain new insights, share experiences and discuss parenting topics.

Play Groups - opportunities for parent and child interaction and socialization with other families. Facilitated play time!

Screenings & Assessments - administered periodically by a parent educator to help assess your child's overall development.

Connections with Community Resources - link your family to area resources and services.



Our focus for our Home Visiting program is on:

Parent-Child Interaction

The love you have for your child and your warm, responsive interactions support her trust in this new wonderful world. With your love and interactions, she will grow and thrive.

Development-Centered Parenting

Share what you see your child doing. Your parent educator will help connect those behaviors and actions to what is happening in your child's development.

Family Well-Being

You are building a healthy, nurturing environment for your child. Your parent educator is there to broaden your knowledge as you make decisions for your child and family.

Services are available to all families with children from birth to 60 months who reside in Delta or Schoolcraft County, based on availability and program qualification.

Call 906-786-9300 ext 116 to enroll today!

**You and your child deserve the support.
Give your child the best possible start in life!**

